THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d) During 1994-95, payments to Fertilizer Manufacturers/Importers (MOP) towards reimbursement of concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers to the farmers, were made on the basis of certified reports of sales submitted by the States|UTs. Payments amounting to Rs. 514.02 crores were processed and cleared upto 31-3-1995. This scheme was applicable to all categories of farmers including small and marginal farmers and a concession of Rs. 1000|- per tonne on MOP and indigenous DAP, Rs. 340|- per tonne on SSP and between Rs. 435-999|- per tonne on indigenous Complexes (depending upon the grade) was given.

Restoration of fertilizer subsidy

4055. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have demanded for restoration of fertilizer subsidy to 1992 level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) Only Karnataka has asked for restoration of fertilizer subsidy on decontrolled fertilizers to the 1992 level on the ground that their consumption has decreased because of hike in their prices. As the Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers were decontrolled on the recommendations of the JPC, there is no proposal at present to go back to 1992 level.

Production of rice and wheat

4056. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the production of rice and wheat in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether India is in a position to export these commodities;

(c) the total target production of these commodities set and actually achieved during the above period;

(d) the details of arrangements made for storing the excess foodgrains in the country;

(e) whether the scheme of food for work is also proposed to be reintroduced in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Total targets and production of rice and wheat during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as follows:—

(Million tonnes)

Year	Rice		Wheat	
	Target	Production	Target	Production
1991-92	76.50	74.68	56.50	55.69
1992-93	77.25	72.86	57.00	57.21
1993-94	78.50	78.97	58.50	59.13

(d) The Government through the Food Corporation of India has the following course of action to meet the additional storage capacity required on account of excess stock of foodgrains:—

(i) All the vacant storage capacity available with State and its agencies are being shared.

(ii) All the Warehousing Corporation (Central and State) have been approached for additional storage capacity requirement.

(iii) The construction of on-going godowns is being expedited.

(iv) FCI's own CAP capacity is being enhanced to the extent land is available in the existing godown premises as well as on land in its possession where godown is still to be constructed.

(v) National Airport and Defence Authorities are being approached for hiring abandoned airstrips for creating large CAP complexes.

(vi) Encouraging private parties to construct plinths for open storage as well as covered godowns.

(vii) Restoring to open sale of wheat and rice as a result of which substantial storage capacity is likely to be available.

(e) to (g) Under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), part of wages are paid in the form of foodgrains not exceeding two kilograms per man day and 50 per cent of wages in cash. The payment of wages in foodgrains is, however optional depending upon the prices of foodgrains in the open market so that workers are enabled to obtain foodgrains at prices not higher than which may be notified by the Govt. of India. During the year 1994-95 12 lakh Mts. of foodgrains have been allotted for the implementation of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme.

Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the production of sugarcane

4057. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented by Government for increasing the production of sugarcane in the country;

(b) whether Government have assessed the average sugarcane production and actual production during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(c) if so, the details thereof, yearwise;

(d) whether Government have fixed the target for sugarcane production during 1994-95;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the estimated production likely to be achieved as per the available trends; and

(f) the funds provided to each State during each of the last three years and during 1994-95 (till date) to boost the sugarcane production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) There is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented so far to increase the production of sugarcane in the country. However, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on sugarcane has been proposed to be implemented during the remaining period of VIII Five Year Plan. Under this scheme, emphasis is proposed to be given on training to the farmers, farm workers including women on newly developed production technology, demonstration, quality seed production, distribution of improved implements etc.

(b) and (c) The average production of sugarcane during 1991-92 to 1993-94 was